Please substitute the following claim 8 for the pending claim 8:

8. (Twice amended) The method of claim 6 wherein said host cell expresses one of the following:

(a) aspartate-semialdehyde dehydrogenase activity;

(b) dihydrodipicolinate synthase activity;

(c) dihydrodipicolinate reductase activity;

(d) diaminopimelate dehydrogenase activity; and

(e) diaminopimelate decarboxylase activity.

C1

Please substitute the following claim 9 for the pending claim 9:

9. (Twice amended) The method of claim 8 further comprising screening for said activity.

Please substitute the following claim 16 for the pending claim 16:

16. (Once amended) An isolated polynucleotide molecule comprising:

(a) the polynucleotide molecule of claim 2; and

(b) at least one additional *Corynebacterium* species lysine pathway gene selected from the group consisting of:

C2

(i) a nucleic acid molecule encoding the *asd* polypeptide of SEQ ID NO:4;

(ii) a nucleic acid molecule encoding the *dapA* polypeptide of SEQ ID NO:6;

(iii) a nucleic acid molecule encoding the *dapB* polypeptide of SEQ ID NO:8;

(iv) a nucleic acid molecule encoding the *ddh* polypeptide of SEQ ID NO:10;

(v) a nucleic acid molecule encoding the *'lysA* polypeptide of SEQ ID NO:21;

C2

(vi) a nucleic acid molecule encoding the *lysA* polypeptide of SEQ ID NO:14; and

(vii) a nucleic acid molecule encoding the *ORF2* polypeptide of SEQ ID NO:16.

Please substitute the following claim 63 for the pending claim 63:

C3

63. (Twice amended) The isolated polynucleotide molecule of claim 61 wherein said promoter is operably linked to the nucleotide sequence encoding SEQ ID NO:2.

Please add the following new claims:

68. The method of claim 8 wherein said activity is aspartate-semialdehyde dehydrogenase activity.

C4

69. The method of claim 8 wherein said activity is dihydrodipicolinate synthase activity.

70. The method of claim 8 wherein said activity is dihydrodipicolinate reductase activity.

71. The method of claim 8 wherein said activity is diaminopimelate dehydrogenase activity.

72. The method of claim 8 wherein said activity is diaminopimelate decarboxylase activity.

73. The isolated polynucleotide molecule of claim 16, wherein said additional *Corynebacterium* species lysine pathway gene is the *asd* polypeptide of SEQ ID NO:4.

C4 CONT

74. The isolated polynucleotide molecule of claim 16, wherein said additional *Corynebacterium* species lysine pathway gene is the *dapA* polypeptide of SEQ ID NO:6.

75. The isolated polynucleotide molecule of claim 16, wherein said additional *Corynebacterium* species lysine pathway gene is the *dapB* polypeptide of SEQ ID NO:8.

76. The isolated polynucleotide molecule of claim 16, wherein said additional *Corynebacterium* species lysine pathway gene is the *ddh* polypeptide of SEQ ID NO:10.

77. The isolated polynucleotide molecule of claim 16, wherein said additional *Corynebacterium* species lysine pathway gene is the *'lysA* polypeptide of SEQ ID NO:21.

78. The isolated polynucleotide molecule of claim 16, wherein said additional *Corynebacterium* species lysine pathway gene is the *lysA* polypeptide of SEQ ID NO:14.

C4

79. The isolated polynucleotide molecule of claim 16, wherein said additional *Corynebacterium* species lysine pathway gene is the *ORF2* polypeptide of SEQ ID NO:16.

In the Abstract:

Please substitute the following abstract for the pending abstract:

C5

The invention provides methods to increase the production of an amino acid from *Corynebacterium* species by way of the amplification of amino acid biosynthetic pathway genes in a host cell chromosome. In a preferred embodiment, the invention provides methods to increase the production of L-lysine in *Corynebacterium glutamicum* by way of the amplification of L-lysine biosynthetic pathway genes in a host cell chromosome.